# British Packet

AND

# ARGENTINE NEWS.

(No. 1031. BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, MAY 23rd, 1846. *Established in* **1826**.)


## BUENOS AYRES.

By the mail from England—which Mr. Ouseley, uninfluenced by any spiteful feeling towards Buenos Ayres, had the generosity to detain only 16 days in Montevideo—we have received files of London papers to the 4th of March. Their contents are very interesting from the important debate on the Corn-law question, which had engrossed the attention of the House of Commons for nearly two weeks. The Ministerial scheme had triumphed by a majority of 97, which was deemed to be sufficiently great to insure its success in the Lords. Details had arrived of the three actions which had taken place in India on the 18th, 21st, and 24th of December. The conflict on the last two days is called the battle of Ferozeshuhur, and is looked upon as one of the severest ever fought in that quarter of the world. The British troops have earned the highest praise for their valour, but their victory has been dearly purchased. Besides Sir Robert Sale and General M'Caskill, a host of other officers have fallen. The number supposed to be killed is 54, and 95 wounded; and the number of men said to be killed is 4,000. Active preparations were going on in all the principal dockyards in England in consequence of the threatening aspect of the Oregon question. France had abandoned the design of sending an expedition to Madagascar. In the British Parliament Ministers had been urged, by Lord John Russell in the Commons, and Lord Beaumont in the Lords, to produce further papers in justification of their armed interference in the affairs of the River Plate, but without success. We insert elsewhere at length the discussion which took place on this subject in the upper House. The speech of the Earl of Aberdeen is a curious specimen of diplomatic chicanery, to which we shall revert on a future occasion.

---

The "pacification" is going ahead most gloriously under the auspices of Messrs. Ouseley and Deffaudis. Rivera, baffled in his designs at Colonia, has, it appears, re-embarked his horde, and, escorted by British and French naval forces, is cruizing along the coast, making occasional descents to plunder, and when this is impracticable, to lay waste the country and murder the inhabitants. The atrocities committed by these Vandals at Las Vacas and La Agraciada are reported to be of the most revolting nature, but no authentic particulars have yet come to hand.

---

The official account of the battle of Obligado did not reach England till late in February. Although the Park and Tower guns were not fired on the occasion, the despatches were honoured by having a place in the London *Gazette* in like manner as those announcing the victory of Ferozeshuhur, and several promotions were made to celebrate the achievement. Capt. Sulivan, of the *Philomel*, is said to have been made a Post-captain, and Lieut. Doyle, (deceased) of the same vessel, Lieut. Key, of the *Fanny*, and Lieut. Levinge, of the *Dolphin*, are reported to have been raised to the rank of Commander. The French, for their share in the glory, have made Capt. Trehouart a Rear-Admiral. After this, the British Government cannot do less than confer the honour of knighthood on Capt. Hotham, even though he has not been over scrupulous in magnifying the importance of the exploit in which he was engaged. But more of this anon.

The British brig *Ringdove* which a short time since was forcibly carried off by H. B. M's. steamer *Lizard* from the mouth of the Salado, where she had entered in the absence of a blockading force, was, on her arrival at Montevideo, released by Admiral Inglefield, and allowed to return to the Salado. But a few days after she was again seized by a French force and re-conducted to Montevideo, when, it appears, a discussion arose between the two Admirals with regard to this unjustifiable proceeding. The result is not known.

The conduct of Admiral Inglefield in this instance is perfectly consistent with the acknowledged rules of blockade, and is a virtual disavowal of the heinous outrages perpetrated by Capt. Reed at Ensenada.

---

## ENGLAND.

### HOUSE OF LORDS—February 20.

### RIO PLATA.

Lord Beaumont moved, pursuant to notice, for copies of any correspondence between the Government of this country and that of France with respect to the armed interference of those two powers in the affairs of the Rio Plata. In moving for this correspondence he hoped he might be allowed shortly to state the grounds upon which he had brought the subject forward. It appeared to him that noble earl, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, had adopted a most impolitic course in reference to this subject, and one at variance with the principles upon which this country had hitherto acted. He wished, in the first place, to refer their lordships to the treaty of 1828, between Brazil and the Argentine Confederation, by one of the articles of which it was declared that Uruguay should be maintained as an independent state. There was also an article which bound Buenos Ayres, in the event of a revolt, to assist the legitimate government of Montevideo in subduing it. In 1829 a sanguinary war broke out between two parties in the Argentine Confederation—viz., the Unitarians and the Federalists. Rosas was the chief of the Unitarians, and Lavalle of the Federalists. Rosas defeated Lavalle; he became President of Buenos Ayres, and had done more than any other person to establish confidence and order in the Republic. In consequence of this triumph a great number of the Unitarian party left the Argentine territory, and went into that of the Banda Oriental, from which they continued to wage war against Buenos Ayres, and to invade from time to time the territory of that country. In 1837 a misunderstanding occurred between France and Buenos Ayres, when France blockaded the ports of the latter country. At that time General Oribe had been elected President of Montevideo, and France was anxious to use the port of Montevideo during the blockade of Buenos Ayres; but as this would have been a violation of the neutrality which Oribe wished to maintain, he refused to abandon his neutral position. The French then succeeded in raising up a party against Oribe. Rivera, the head of this party, succeeded in driving Oribe from the presidency, who took refuge in Buenos Ayres. In 1840 the French, in consequence of circumstances which had occurred in Europe, patched up a peace with Rosas, who agreed to observe the terms of the convention of 1828. Oribe subsequently defeated Rivera, and, assisted by Buenos Ayres, invaded the territory of the Banda Oriental for the purpose of recovering his authority. In 1842, and he believed in 1843, France and England offered their mediation which was refused. When things were in this state the noble earl at the instigation of Brazil, interfered. Oribe was in possession of the whole territory of the Republic of Uruguay, with the exception of Montevideo. Rivera had been defeated. The party who held out was composed of Italians, French and Austrians, including, he believed, not more than 150 natives, which number was subsequently reduced to 50. If England and France had interfered to prevent the effusion of blood, their interference had been most unfortunate; for if they had not interfered peace in all probability would have been established between Montevideo and Buenos Ayres. The result of their interference was not only a continuation of the horrors which they had interfered to prevent, but it had also to encourage a province of the Argentine Confederation to renew a frightful war between two parties, the Federalists and Unitarians. If their object in interfering was that the rivers might be opened to commercial enterprise, they would be equally unfortunate. The Paranà ran through the territory of Rosas, and the opening of it entirely depended upon him. Another evil of their interference was, that it was not between nation and nation, but between a war faction in Montevideo and the rest of the country. Now, such an interference in the internal wars of another nation was not to be justified. In May, 1844, the right hon. baronet at the head of the government, in speaking on this question, said that he considered such an interference would be contrary to the law of nations. What he wished to know was, whether any convention had been entered into between France and England to regulate this strange interference? Nothing could be more dangerous than for these two powers to interfere in states like these of South America, where the people were prone to believe that self-interest and a desire of aggression were the motives which actuated these two countries to interfere. There was nothing beyond the instructions to our Minister to show that neither France nor England interfered with such an intention. If the French Government had entered into agreement not to make aggressions, he thought the noble earl ought to produce the document. It had always been the custom in similar cases to have a convention, and the production of the instructions sent to our Minister could never be looked upon as sufficient. It was impossible for the noble earl to justify our interference with reference to our commercial interests; for instead of protecting them, it had been most ruinous in its results. It was an interference merely to support a faction of armed rebels in Montevideo, composed of Frenchmen and Italians who had purchased and sold public property, and against Rosas, who alone could grant what they desired. In the instructions which had been sent out, the noble earl stated that it was the intention of the two countries to unite their influence to terminate the disputes, and, if need be, to employ their forces for that purpose. Was not that doing what the head of the government declared in 1844 would be contrary to the law of nations? The noble earl then went on in his instructions to state that, with a view to settle the question, it might be advantageous if the conditions of peace were to include the removal of Oribe and other political refugees, among whom was Rivera, from Montevideo. It appeared then that while the noble earl was interfering in order to establish lawful authority, he recommended the sending away of the only persons who ever possessed authority. The noble earl seemed now to see the errors into which he had fallen at the time of writing this dispatch, and in the second dispatch, of a later period, he abandoned the idea of exiling both governments, and was willing to allow both the contending factions to remain in Montevideo. He had no doubt that the officers employed in carrying out this arrangement had acted according to their instructions, and he, therefore, did not impute any blame to them, but he considered that great blame attached to the government

at home. Before concluding he wished to state that he did not appear before their lordships as the apologist of Rosas. He did not wish to palliate the charges of cruelty which had been brought against him, with regard to his sanguinary disposition. All he could says was this, that they had been enormously exaggerated, and that, judging from the state of morals and opinions in that country, Rosas stood far superior and in a better light than most of the persons who had risen to power in that part of the world ; and he never felt more shocked than in reading the publication which had been put forward as the life and history of General Rosas. The noble lord concluded by moving an address to her Majesty for the production of the correspondence between the two governments which led to the convention, and any other documents calculated to show the grounds on which that convention was agreed upon.

The Earl of ABERDEEN—My lords, I have so long been accustomed to find the attention of my noble friend opposite exclusively directed to the condition of the eastern part of Europe, and especially to questions connected with the interests and rights of the Turkish empire, that I hope I may consider this excursion to the western world as some indication at least that so far as her Majesty's government are concerned, he has left all matters in the east in a tolerably satisfactory situation (a laugh). The noble lord has stigmatised very strongly the intervention of England and France in the affairs of the River Plate, and described it as entirely unnecessary and unjust. Now, my lords, I venture to think that, if ever there was a case in which a proceeding of this kind was called for and was justifiable, it is that which has taken place, and the principles and objects of which are defined in the instructions which have been laid on your lordships' table. My lords, you will recollect that, for several years, a most destructive war has existed in the River Plate—a war which has been carried on and accompanied by atrocities revolting to humanity (hear, hear)—a war which, in truth, has no rational object whatever ; no intelligible, no public ground ; but is founded entirely on personal hatred and party rivalry. My lords, it is rare indeed that a war, in my mind, can be just and wise ; but this war in the River Plate is not only wicked, but it is the most senseless that ever afflicted mankind. My lords, during the whole course of that war, the object of Great Britain has been, if possible, to arrest its progress. In the year 1841 the noble lord who preceded me in the office which I have now the honour to hold, directed her Majesty's Minister at Buenos Ayres to press on that government the mediation of Great Britain, with the view of putting an end to the hostilities which then existed. That offer was refused, although it had been earnestly sought for by the opposite side, by the government of Montevideo. In the following year I thought an opportnnity had arisen, in which the united proposition of England and France to mediate between the parties, would afford some prospect of success. The joint mediation of England and France was strongly pressed upon the contending parties. It was accepted by Montevideo, but again rejected by Buenos Ayres. That was in the autumn of the year 1842. The government of Buenos Ayres was then told that, although we acquiesced in that decision, it was impossible for us indefinitely to permit a sanguinary warfare of this kind to continue, and the interests of British commerce to be continually interrupted and impeded. However, my lords, for two years following we took no steps in this affair. The war continued—its horrors increased, and with these horrors the injury to our commerce also increased. I was applied to from time to time, and not a month passed in which I was not attacked in every quarter for being guilty of apathy—of culpable apathy—of being indifferent to British commerce and negligent of British interests. Petitions on the subject were presented to both houses of parliament. Still, however, I felt that it would require very strong ground to interfere with the exercise of the powers of an independent state, even when that state was employed in a manner so senseless and so barbarous as that of Buenos Ayres and Montevideo At the end of these two years, representations from all quarters were made to her Majesty's government upon this subject, and at last the government of Brazil also interfered. The noble lord seems to think that that government was out of its sphere in interfering in this matter ; but the noble lord must recollect that as a neigbouring power, deeply interested in the tranquility of the river Plate, aud having its frontier provinces thereby continually disturbed and threatened by these hostilities, had undoubtedly the most direct interest of any power of interfering, the ambassador of Brazil, at the end of the year 1844, both at London and Paris, strongly implored an intervention on the part of England and France, for the purpose of putting an end to those hostilities which appeared to be interminable. The governments of England and France then, having concerted together, determined to offer their mediation a third time, for the purpose of effecting this pacification ; and, if it should be again refused, to attempt to coerce the parties to accept that peace which they had hitherto vainly attempted to establish. Accordingly, a special mission was sent out on the part of this country and also on the part of France. The instructions of her Majesty's ministers are on the table. Those of the French Minister have also been laid before the French chamber, and are strictly analogous to those which are now before your lordships, and I must say that they appear to entertain no hostile view towards the interests sf General Rosas or Buenos Ayres. Quite the contrary. Nothing can be more perfectly clear than the spirit of impartiality which pervade the whole of the course adopted by the English and the French governments in those transactions. Every means was employed to induce the government of Buenos Ayres to listen to the suggestions, but they again refused to adopt any propositions which were made until they had annihilated those "savage Unitarians," as the noble lord called them, but which is really an unaccountable description or name, because there appeared no real ground of hostility, and there appeared nothing but a determination to annihilate them. They were evidently from papers published by the government of Buenos Ayres—they were evidently misled by the reports of their agents—they thought the union of England and France in this matter was not sincere—that we distrusted each other—that we had separate objects in view, and every art was employed for the purpose of sowing misunderstanding and dissension. But they must have found that England and France are united on this object in a manner perfectly disinterested, and that we have no other motive in view than the establishment of peace in those countries, which have been so long desolated by this cruel war. They also were misled by the unauthorised interference of the Minister of the United States. The government of Buenos Ayres thought they should enlist the government of the United States in their support, but I am happy to say that whatever may be the opinion of individual orators, the United States government have entirely disavowed and disapproved of the conduct of their agents ; aud when we explained fully the course of policy which we intended to adopt they expressed no sort of disapprobation whatever, but, on the contrary, disavowed, as I have already said, the whole of the proceedings of their agents (hear, hear.) Now, my lords, the object of this interference is very simple. It is peace, and peace alone, with the independent existence of the Republic of Uruguay. The noble lord says we are no parties to the convention that established that state. It is true we did not guarantee its existence ; but that state was created under the mediation of this government, and therefore it is impossible for us to witness its destruction. The same with the French government. In the year 1840, in the peace made with Buenos Ayres, they not only recognised but secured the independent existence of Uruguay ; and indeed it would be a most unfortunate event if we should allow Rosas to become possessed of both sides of the river Plate, which would be the case if we had not interfered and prevented the destruction of Montevideo. With respect to Oribe, there is no sort of objection to his election as President of the republic of Uruguay, if such should be the will of the people. We have no sort of objection to him, and no intention to support Rivera or anybody else. If the noble lord thinks General Oribe has the whole country with him, let him send away the troops of Rosas, let him be elected President of the Republic, and no objection will be made on the part of the English or French governments. But at present he is the lieutenant of Rosas, commanding the troops forced upon the country by Rosas, at the head of the Argentine army, and so long as that is the case it would be ridiculous to talk of the independence of the republic of Uruguay. We have no other desire than that they should freely exercise their voice in the election of their president, and whether it fall upon General Oribe or any body else, so long as the state is preserved separate and independent, there can be no sort of objection on the part of England and France. I will just make an observation on the remark made by the noble lord respecting the free navigation of the river Paraná. That is no doubt a great object, and it is to be hoped that it may be accomplished peacefully. I quite agree with the noble lord, and only repeat the sentiments which I have already expressed in this house on the subject—that we cannot pretend to exercise any claim to the navigation of the river Paraná, both banks of which are in the Argentine republic. Certainly not. Such a pretension would be contrary to our own practice, and to the principles for which we have always contended. What may happen if this should be established, and events should take a more unfortnnate turn, is another question ; but so long as we are negociating with this state, with which we are not at war—for although the blockade of Buenos Ayres has been established, and it is a measure approaching hostilities, it is not necessarily in a state of war—we are not only not at war with Buenos Ayres, but I trust we shall continue at peace, and that our relations may be re-established on perfectly friendly grounds. I would only further say, that very recently General Rosas has made fresh proposals for the settlement of these differences. They are not in their present state admissible certainly, but they may very possibly lead to an amicable settlement of the whole dispute (hear, hear.) Under these circumstances, I trust the noble lord will not think it prudent to press for the papers which could not contribute to any such end, but on the contrary might prove exceedingly mischievous. I trust your lordship will understand the discretion which prevents me from entering into any discussion of the character of the government of Buenos Ayres, and of the persons at its head. I think it would be unbecoming in me if I were to say anything which could militate against the hope which I entertain of living in peace and on terms of friendship with the state, as we have done for many years. And if they could only entertain the same regard which animates us, and ought to animate the whole of mankind, we should have no reason to complain of their policy on the present occasion. I trust, therefore, that under these circumstances the noble lord will not press for any further papers at present, as their production might be exceedingly injurious (cheers.)

Lord COLCHESTER heartily concurred in the desire of the government to put an end to the warfare which had so long been carried on on the river Plate, but he could not help fearing that the means which they had employed for carrying out their object were not likely to succeed. The noble lord said the war which had been carried on between Buenos Ayres and Montevideo was without an object. Now, he thought the noble lord was somewhat misinformed on the subject. The state of Montevideo was in the possession of Oribe, and it was only the city which held out. The population of the city did not exceed 25,000 persons, 5000 of whom were natives and Spaniards, 1000 refugees, and the remaining 17,000 French and Italians. The natives, therefore, did not constitute more than one-fourth of the population, and the original quarrel originated in a desire to make Montevideo a French port—a proposal to which Oribe refused to agree. It would be desireable to put an end to the war, because there could be no doubt it interfered with our commerce. Our trade with Buenos Ayres was totally destroyed, and was not compensated by augmented trade with Montevideo. He trusted the speech made by the noble lord that night would have a beneficial effect. He repeated, that it was not the natives of Montevideo that held out against General Oribe, but it was the 15,000 Frenchmen in the city, who had special objects of their own to attain. When the blood of Spaniards was up, no doubt they would act with great promptness, and he was not, therefore, prepared to deny that great cruelties had been committed. He lamented the fact, but he could not deny it.

Lord BEAUMONT wrs satisfied with the speech of the noble earl. There was one point, however, to which he wished to direct a remark. It was that part of his noble friend's speech which had reference to the strangers within the walls of Buenos Ayres. Now, it could not be expected that General Oribe would send away his army while these strangers continued in arms. If the strangers laid down their arms no doubt General Oribe would send back Rosas' army. After what had fallen from the noble earl, he should not press his motion.

The Duke of WELLINGTON wished to ask the noble lord one question. The noble lord has stated that General Oribe was the first president, but he believed that General Rivera was the first President. Perhaps, however, they were two claimants to this office.

Lord BEAUMONT said that General Rivera served his time as president. A new election took place and General Oribe was elected. The latter general had not fulfilled his time according to the constitution, and this was owing to the intervention of a body of Frenchmen, some of whom, he believed, had landed from France. These foreigners, under Generals Rivera and Lavalle, upset the president. General Oribe took refuge in Buenos Ayres ; he was followed into that territory, although it was an independent state, and war was thus carried into Buenos Ayres. In the retreat that took place General Lavalle lost his life.

The motion was then withdrawn.

## INTERCEPTED CORRESPONDENCE.

Montevideo, 19th March 1846.

My dear Sulivan,

Mellersh sent me your long letter to him per "Alecto," and its contents afforded me food for thought. I have seen a letter from Paz which arrived by the same conveyance, and he speaks of the Governor Madariaga with perfect satisfaction, but makes similar observations as yourself regarding the Paraguayans. I have no doubt, however, if well officered that they would make the best soldiers in South America. General O'Brien, who arrived here some days back says that there was a batallion of 800 Paraguayans in the Peruvian war of Independence, and that they were the best soldiers in the patriot ranks—honest, well behaved, and brave men.

We have news from Rio de Janeiro up to the 9th inst., at which date the Falmouth Packet had not arrived, but by way of Jersey they had news from England up to the end of December, when Lord John not having been able to form a Cabinet, Sir Robt. Peel had retaken office with all his colleagues except Lord Stanley who had been replaced by Mr. Gladstone. The Rio Papers state that it was rumoured that the projected abolition of the corn law was not the cause of the resignation of Sir Robert, but the Queen's desire to have Prince Albert proclaimed King consort, and placed at the head of the army. It was said that she observed with mortification in her late tour among the Germans, that her husband was treated more as a German Prince or Duke than as the husband of the reigning Queen of a great nation. It is further said that Sir Robert opposed the Queen's desire. If this be true I shall have a better opinion of him—for although I do not know that there would be much difference in reality between the Queen's husband and the King Consort, he ought not to be placed at the head of the army by virtue of his exalted rank.......Let us have able men if we can to fill such important offices without regard to rank......I believe I informed you in my last per "Gassendi" that a Whig cabinet had been formed on the 19th December, and that the news was received first at Bahia, thence to Rio Janeiro, thence here—it was, however, a hoax played off at Rio.

To say that the people here are not disappointed at Urquiza's having made good his retreat, would not be affirming the truth, and after reading Paz's letter of the 13th February, and particulaly the *postscript*, published in the Corrientes newspapers, they were justified in expecting something more than appears to have been done by Paz; at the same time from what you and others write, after the retreat was accomplished it is not so much a matter of surprise. You can hardly blame Paz for concealing his weakness even from his friends. He says that the rout of his vanguard and the capture of his correspondence revealed the nature of his operations which were then of course abandoned. We have heard nothing from Buenos Ayres since the arrival of the "Alecto." Outside affairs go on as usual, and inside there is not much difference. Yesterday, arrived from Rio the Spanish brig "*Fomento*"—an ominous name—having as passenger General Don Frutos Rivera. He had been expected for several days. The Vernon's boat was the first that boarded and took out his Excellency to pass the night on board the Flagship—This morning he was conveyed back to the Spanish brig, two armed boats were moored near her to prevent any one from communicating with the shore, but not until several of Rivera's friends had gone off to visit him. It is said that the Government will not permit him to come on shore here, and that the troops are very much incensed against him for having behaved so badly at *India Muerta*. I suspect, however, that his popularity is on the wane with many of the big wigs, who at one time could not do without him, and who owe their own elevation to his friendship more than their deserts. The Pacheco party is strong and probably ambitiously aims at supreme power. The Flores party—so called in consequence of that headstrong foolish man having been put forward as their tool—is comparatively week, and having worked against Rivera they may not feel disposed to assist him now, even if they possessed the means. There appears less excitement on the occasion than I expected. While I am writing—8 p. m.—I hear native soldiers with their clashing swords parading the streets. The Government had much better have shipped him away immediately or allowed him to land, I mean Rivera, for I am of opinion that if he be not sent away immediately, he will get on shore and then mischief might ensue, for whatever his previous inclinations or intentions were, his present treatment will probably beget sentiments of revenge, and serious consequences might ensue. After all, however, it is possible that all this fuss is made by his adherents, merely to cloak some ulterior designs. I put no faith in any of their protestations; the more solemn they are, the more I suspect them.

It is said the French Corvette "Somere" was at Rio Janeiro with 300 infantry from the Marquezas and that she was to sail for the River Plate in the course of a day or two. Mr. Ouseley has made no secret of expecting troops out, and yesterday he is stated to have said they may arrive here before we receive intelligence of their embarcation. Although I believe we shall have French troops out soon, I am sceptical as regards British troops. Capt. Martin says he is convinced that French troops will come out; if only because there are British troops here. France, he says, will be jealous of the latter.

The last accounts we have from Maldonado state Silveira to be in that Department with between 3 and 400 men, sometimes collected together, at others divided into small parties. He had lately succeeded in sending a troop of cattle for the use of the poor refugees on Gorriti, many of which under cover of the Curaçoa's boats were passed over. The supply was seasonable as the poor creatures were badly off for food. Silveira is said to be a good Chief and tractable—the only one during the Eagle's sojourn at Maldonado. Flores is, I believe, here, but we hear nothing of him.

From your remarks about poor Doyle I fear you are under the impression he had not good medical assistance. It is true Conyngham attended him, but, I believe, it was Doyle's most particular request. Murray, however was unremitting in his attendance, and the Doctor of the Flagship was frequently consulted. A *post mortem* examination satisfied the medicos that the treatment was judicious, and it was discovered that had poor Doyle lived it is doubtful if he would have been able to walk. Perhaps, therefore, what is, is best. We are all well at home.

Your's very truly,

*G. Hodgskin.*

---

Corrientes, April 5, 1846.

H. C. Smith Esqr.

Dear Sir,

I had the enclosed ready to forward down by Mr. Colton, to sail on Tuesday, but as I consider the present a more speedy conveyance I now send it. I am distressed beyond measure to inform you of the state of affairs here at present. In my former I hinted at what was at the time rumoured as only possible to take place, since when matters have hourly become worse, and our worst fears are now realized. The enclosed Boletines and Decretos will shew what the row is about. To-day the alarm gun was fired for all the people to put themselves under arms, and proceed outside for the defence of the town; every thing is in confusion: the arms, munitions, ready made clothing, and printing press, has to-day been embarked from the Custom House, and we are as you may suppose all a little nervous. 12 o'clock. A chasque has this moment come in from the Governor, and we have seen the original communication sent by him, stating that the traidores Abalos and Ocampos with a division of General Paz's army had been attacked by a strong force of the Government party under Colonel Averengo, near the Arroyo del Empedrado, and entirely routed. The people were ordered to return home, and the shipping of stores, &c., &c., for the present is stopped; so it may all blow over but I doubt it, as General Madariaga has a strong partido, and the feeling against Paz amongst the town people is not very good.

I refer you to Mr. Jones for further particulars, and remain

Your's faithfully,

*Chas. P. Harvey, Jr.*

The two men that betrayed General Juan Madariaga to Urquiza were yesterday publicly shot in the Plaza—A cry of Mueran ios Cordobeses has to-day been raised among the people.

C. P. H. jr.

6th April—Mr. Jones, in his letter of last night, will have informed you of the unpleasant intelligence brought by the chasque from the Army at Villa-nueva, viz: the flight of General Paz, and the total dispersion of the Correntino forces, consequently the coast is now clear, and Urquiza with 500 men may quietly walk into town without firing a shot. Paz, some say, is in retreat towards the Banda Oriental, by way of Uruguayana; others that he has fallen back upon the frontiers of Paraguay with the 5000 Paraguayans. God knows how we are to get out of this mess. The only plan is to embark our property on board the ships, and return *at once* to Montevideo.

We shall have it hot and heavy from the Barrancas, as news is in town from Capt. Hotham stating that a large force of artillery had left Buenos Ayres, and he apprehended serious damage to the convoy going down.

Your's faitfully,

Chas. P. Harvey, jr.

Jones tells me he does not consider it prudent to send you the Boletines and Decretos by this conveyance, as it is all a chance whether any vessel may be leaving the Bajada at the time this reaches, and duplicate copies are not to be had. The most important one, however, I have copied and send herewith.

---

H. M. S. Gorgon, off Bajada,
14th April, 1846—

Dear Murray,

I have to offer you many thanks for attending so nicely to the commissions I hoped Capt. Hurdle would have had time to manage for me, and though highly indebted to you, my conscience is not quite at ease on account of the trouble you have been put to. I well know that shopping in Montevideo is no easy affair, and it was really too bad to give you such a bother, occupied as you must be with others matters. I arranged with Capt. Hurdle about the dollars my things were to cost, and he will hand them to you, and I hope you wont forget to include the price of the paper.

Owing you a debt for your good deeds, though not for your newsgiving letters I must try to give you some news. From Corrientes we have deplorable accounts.

On the 4th inst., Governor Madariaga ordered Celedonio Velazco and Miguel Morel to be publicly shot for treason, in having been a chief cause of the loss of the 5th of February by the vanguard. A riot and fight occurred on the 5th instant between two parties; on the same day he dissolved the Chamber of Deputies, and issued a decree deposing Paz as director of the war, and stating that Paz and some of the Deputies had conspired against his legal power. Several of Paz's friends were put in prison, amongst whom was Senhor Domingnez, who with his pretty wife went up in a French coal ship with the convoy. In a notification of the 5th the Governor says all danger has passed, and quiet is restored in the town—it is said that Paz has been deserted by most of the Correntinos; that he told the soldiers they might have horses it they wished to leave him, and that with 8000 Paraguayans he was by last account marching towards Paraguay. We last heard that Urquiza was no great distance from Bajada, and that he had allowed part of his soldiers to go on leave to look after their affairs or amuse themselves, knowing that at Corrientes matters would be arranged well enough without his being at any trouble. There has evidently been a split between Madariaga and Paz, but whether caused by an influence from Rosas or from ambition and jealousy they have managed to ruin the cause, and I should think to disgust every one connected with them. Paz is so much of a favourite with the Gorgon's, that we all blame Madariaga, but there is doubtless blame on both sides. The Paraguayans stick to Paz, which says much in his favour. On the 7th the convoy, with some exceptions, were ready to come down. If you know Miss H. Campbell, will you tell her that on the 7th her father was well and busy at Corrientes, and I dare say she will give you one of her nice looks with her happy laughing eyes. Some of her friends may like to know that the Caledonia transferred the remains of her salt to the Hollywood, and went to Goya on the 7th, that the Hollywood had landed most of her cargo at the Custom House, and had not begun to take in cargo when her boat left to come down here on the 7th. All the ships are to be down here by the 9th May. Some of them I fear without having done much good; but the small ones are said to have done well. Men who have capital now embarked in this river must suffer sadly, for there is now no prospect but the reign of disorder for a long time to come. The army up the country is for a long time ruined and England and France are about to play no creditable part I fear, for there is now no doubt that the vigorous means that alone would ensure success are not to be used by France and England. Surely we have either done too much or not enough. All honest men must get disgusted in having any thing to do with so vile a set, and perhaps the only way to deal with them would be to let them go on destroying each other till they have rid their fine soil of the scum that encumbers it. Truth and honesty is not known amongst them, and it is dangerous to be their friend. Capt. Hotham and Capt. Trehouart have gone in the Alecto to Corrientes to see what all the row is about: they are to return in three weeks, when we accompany the convoy past the batteries, and, perhaps, go to Montevideo. There is a battery of 18 pounders at San Lorenzo. The Alecto was fired at for an hour and a half in her way up, 8 shot struck her hull but hurt no one: we hear they are getting red hot shot ready for us, so we may expect a good hammering and will give something to them in that way. I have another case very like Eaton's, it is going on well. I had an other amputation yesterday—the man says he is one of our allies—remembrances to all friends.

I am very truly yours,

*P. Niddrie.*

---

H. M. S. Gorgon, Bajada,
15th April, 1846.

My dear Sir,

Although you are already my debtor by several letters, I must write you something of the sad state of affairs in Corrientes. The bright hopes we all entertained of the success of the army in that Province are not to be realised, for, from some hidden cause, it has been all but destroyed, and if Urquiza chooses now to march north he could, without difficulty, reach the capital. On the 7th inst., a boat came down from one of the English vessels, with letters for Capt. Hotham, and by her we learned that a serious quarrel had occurred between Governor Madariaga and General Paz, but on what grounds it was not publicly known. There were two parties in the Chamber of Deputies; one for the Governor, the other for the General, and on the 2d inst., the House was dissolved. On the 4th, Celedonio Velazco and Miguel Morel were shot, for having been the cause of the disaster of the 4th February. The decree of the 2d inst. dissolved the Legislature, and appoints the 19th for the re-election of Deputies. A decree of the 4th inst. states that the Director of the war having sent part of his force to overturn constitutional authority, he is, therefore, suspended from the command of the army; that the Governor takes command; that the election of Deputies shall be deferred; military law established; and the decree made known to the Government of Paraguay. Having copies of the decretos, proclamas, and boletins on board, we are too well assured of the fact that a quarrel has occurred, but of the cause of this unhappy outbreak, and of the steps taken by each party, we have only reports. It is said that Paz, supported by a section of the Deputies, finding that he was not only not supported, but crippled in his movements by the authority of Madariaga, could submit no longer, and the present sad state of affairs has been caused by an attempt to elect a new Governor. Madariaga accuses Paz of an attempt to overturn the legal Government, and says that he sent a party of soldiers with that object; we hear that Paz did send a detachment towards Corrientes, but that they were intended to protect his friends: some of Paz's friends have been put in prison, others ordered to leave in 24 hours. Signior Dominguez, who came up from Montevideo in a French brig with the convoy, has been put into prison. In a boletin of the 5th inst., Madariaga states that all danger has passed, that peace is restored in the town, and that at Villa Nueva the army had refused to take part against the Government. It is also said Paz's wife and family had been publicly insulted, they had gone to Goya, and on the 7th inst., were about to sail for Paraguay; he is said to have told the Correntinos that those who did not choose to serve with him, might go, and that they would be provided with horses; the Paraguayans remain with him, and amounting to 8,000, they were under his command marching towards Paraguay. It seems that the quarrel has been gradually growing to its present height for a long time, but it is difficult to fancy that selfishness and ambition could lead to such conduct at such a time. Madariaga must either be a big fool or vile traitor, for with a grain of sense he must see that his conduct places his country at the mercy of Rosas. We in the Gorgon have too good an opinion of Paz to believe him guilty of anything unworthy of a man of integrity, and hope that his acknowledged military talent may yet put matters to rights. We hear nothing of Urquiza's movements, and believe that he, from the bad state of his horses, will not be able to take advantage of the present disorder

Capt. Hotham and Capt. Trehouart went, two days ago, to go to Corrientes in the Alecto, at the request of some of the residents; they are to return in three weeks, and the convoy are to be passed down the river on the 9th May; a great part of the vessels had got cargoes on the 7th inst., but there were some that had not begun to load; the goods taken up could not generally be sold, and they were landed at the Custom House. I fear there will be no fortunes made by this speculation.

Is it possibly true that England and France are not to use the energetic measures that alone can put Rosas to rights; surely we have already done too much for to allow such a line of conduct, for with credit we can only get out of the business in one way. There are some big guns at San Lorenzo, as the Alecto found by being hit 8 times in the hull, but no one was hurt. We are to put the batteries to rights in our way down, and prevent them from doing the merchant ships much harm. Gorgon, I hope, may get down to Montevideo, but of this nothing is yet certain. Pray remember me kindly to all under your roof. Lawrence has, by Richards, sent his love to the Pfiels, and I would do the same, but for fear that the ladies might call me an impudent fellow; do let me hear all your news, and believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

*P. Niddrie.*

A. R. Pfiel, Esq., Montevideo.

---

H. M. S. Firebrand,
April 12th, 1846.
River Paraná.

Dear Friends,

I trust these few lines will find you and all your family quite well, and in some hopes of an alteration in the Mount very soon. I have been expecting to hear from you for some time past, but I must attribute it to your having been busy. We were to have been at the Mount next month, but something has transpired at Corrientes rather unexpected; I cannot find out what it is A boat arrived last night, at 11 o'clock, from one of the merchant vessels, and we leave to-morrow morning to go as far as possibly we can up this river. I think this affair is one of the most foolish things I have ever heard of. I do not care how soon we are out of this river, but before we get out of it, we shall have some warm work, as Rosas is making great preparations for us, and not so easily to get at as Obligado; since I commenced this I have heard that General Paz has left his army, and no one knows where he is gone. (I must say we have made a pretty kettle of fish of it.)

Dear friend,—I find that Mr. Clement, 3rd of the Alecto, has been at your shop to work; I have known him for some years, and I beg to warn you of him, as he is *no good*. Please give my kind respects to Mr. O'Gorman, and tell him the same, as he is *willing* to deceive people often times. Please give my kind respects to Mrs. M. and family, and to all inquiring friends. We are all well, except Mr. Gray; he has been poorly for several days past, but getting rather better to-day. Mr. Dunkin writes to you by this vessel; he and his mate are both well. We have been laying at this place, Bajada, together for some time. Should any vessel be coming up, I shall be glad to have a few lines from you.

Allow me to remain your well wisher,

*J. Davey,*
1st Engineer.

Excuse this, I am going to the Gorgon immediately.

Mr. Milbourn, care of Mr. O'Gorman, Montevideo.

# MARINE LIST.

## PORT of BUENOS AYRES.

*May* 16.—*Wind N.E.*

***Arrived,*** Sardinian schooner of war Ninfa del Plata, Ribot, from Montevideo 15th inst., with the March mail from England, brought to Rio Janeiro on 17th April by H. B. M. packet Crane, and thence to Montevideo on 29th by H. B. M. schooner Ranira. The Ninfa was allowed to come to the inner roads for the purpose of landing her numerous passengers, viz:—Sardinians 88, French 65, British 7, Germans 2, Argentine 1, Oriental 1. Total 164.

*May* 17.—*Wind N.*

***Arrived,*** a schooner (not known)

*May* 18—*Wind N. slight rain.*

No arrivals or sailings.

*May* 19.—*Wind S.S.E.*

No arrivals or sailings.

*May* 20.—*Wind S. E., fresh.*

No arrivals or sailings.

*May* 21.—*Wind S.S.W.*

***Sailed,*** the schooner which arrived on the 17th inst.; she hoisted no flag while in the roads, nor is she known.

*May* 22.—*Wind W.S.W.*

No arrivals or sailings.

### ARRIVALS AT MONTEVIDEO.

*April* 24.

Spanish barque Federico, Gelpi, from Barcelona 1st January, Malaga 25th, and Rio Janeiro 7th ult.

American barque Chief, Lefever, from Patagonia 17th ult.

Spanish schooner Jacinto, Bozotao, from Barcelona 14th and Gibraltar 21st February.

Sardinian barque Esperanza, Gastardil, from Genoa 9th, and Gibraltar 21st February.

British brig Caledonia, Menhennet, from Liverpool 9th January.

*April* 25.

American barque Mason Barney, Scott, from New York 18th February.

Spanish brig Empresa, Arriaga, from Malaga 14th February.

British barque Commodore, S. Croix, from St. Ubes 10th March.

Russian brig Bustray, Schiduach, from Libau 23rd January.

*April* 26.

Spanish polacre Pronta, Maristain, from Barcelona 21st February, Malaga 11th March, and the Canary Islands 19th.

Swedish barque Prince Carl, Haster, from Lisbon 9th March.

*April* 27.

British barque Malcolm, D. Smith, from Whitehaven 10th February.

Sardinian polacre Carolina, Piaggio, from Genoa 11th February.

British brig Lima, Towns, from Liverpool 28th January, and Pernambuco 29th March.

British barque Isabel, Herbert, from Liverpool 9th February.

*April* 28.

British brig Creole, Pringle, from Liverpool 10th February.

*April* 29.

British barque Wolga, Brown, from Hull 3rd February.

Prussian barque Elizabeth, Hengy, from Lisbon 11th March.

H. B. M. schooner Ranira, from Rio Janeiro 20th April, with the March mail from England, brought by the packet Crane.

Swedish brig Experiment, Alogreu, from the Island of Salt 18th March, and Rio Janeiro 20th ult.

British brig Charles, from Liverpool 9th February.

American barque Baltimore, Wright, from Rio Grande 26th ult.

British brig Paragon, Dunn, from Lisbon 27th February.

*April* 30.

British barque Melody, Hooper, from Cadiz 9th March.

Hamburg barque Magdalen, Falck, from Valparaiso 29th March.

Sardinian schooner Nuestra Señora de los Angeles, Requeche, from Rio Grande 26th April.

*May* 2.

Danish schooner Elinna, Amodsen, from Havana 1st March.

Sardinian polacre Carlos Alberto, Demoro, from Genoa 14th February.

*May* 3.

Spanish brig Paquete de Buenos Ayres, Gonzales Viega, from Cadiz 16th March.

*May* 4.

British brig Maurey, from Rio Janeiro 18th April.

British brig Antelope, from London 7th March.

British brig Forrester, Steels, from Hull 16th February, and Plymouth 8th March.

*May* 5.

American ship Wataga, Moore, from Cadiz 10th February.

Spanish brig Brillante, Bernes, from Barcelona 10th January, Rio Janeiro 16th ult.

Spanish brig Eduviges, Selleres, from Barcelona 6th February, Malaga 20th, and Rio Janeiro 20th ult.

*Mey* 6.

Sardinian schooner of war Ninfa del Plata, hence 28th ult., and Colonia 3rd inst.

H. B. M. schooner brig Victoria, hence 2nd inst.

*May* 7.

American barque Iowa, Thompson, from Norfolk 15th March.

Sardinian schooner Luisa, from the English Bank.

French gun-boat Malouine, from Colonia.

*May* 8.

H. B. M. troop ship Resistance, C. G. E. Patey, Commander, from Colonia.

*May* 10.

A Danish brig from the coast of Patagonia in ballast.

Brazilian brigantine of war Olinda, 10 guns, Capt. Amazonas, hence 9th inst.

*May* 13.

Spanish brig Amnistia, Mirabeu, from Barcelona 20th February, Malaga 11th March, and Rio Janeiro 24th ult.

American brig Abransa, R. Porter Field, from Baltimore 14th March.

# MERCHANT VESSELS

## IN THE PORT OF BUENOS AYRES ON FRIDAY LAST.

NONE.

FOREIGN VESSELS OF WAR.

BRITISH.—Ship Melampus, 42 guns, Captain John Norman Campbell.

Brig Racer, 16 guns, Captain Archibald Reed.

FRENCH—Brig Adonis, 20 guns, Capt. Colet.

SARDINIAN—Brig Daino, 14 guns, Captain Chevalier Scaffiero.

Schooner Ninfa del Plata, Capt. Ribot.

BRAZILIAN—Brigantine Olinda, 10 guns, Captain Amazonas.

### *Blockade of the Port of Buenos Ayres by the combined Anglo-French squadron.*

May 19.—Two launches from the Racer were seen this day alongside the schooner which arrived on the 17th, conveying some articles from said schooner to the Racer.

No other movement worthy of notice has occurred this week.

This day (23rd inst.) completes the 238th day of the blockade.

THERMOMETER in the Mirador of the Commercial Room since our last:—

Saturday.................................65
Sunday...................................65
Monday...................................65
Tuesday..................................62
Wednesday................................60
Thursday.................................59
Friday...................................56

### DIED,

On his passage home, *Mr. James Appleby*, printer, native of Stockton-upon-Tees, England, and formerly a resident in this city.

# PRICES CURRENT.

| | $ | | $ | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Doubloons, Spanish | 393 | á | 396 | each |
| Do. Patriot | 390 | á | 392 | do. |
| Plata, macuquina | 19 | á | 20 | do for one |
| Dollars, Spanish | 24 | á | 25 | each. |
| Do. Patriot & Patacones | $23\frac{1}{2}$ | á | $23\frac{3}{4}$ | do. |
| Six per cent. Stock | 81 | á | 82 | do. per cent |
| Exchange on England | $2\frac{1}{8}$ | á | $2\frac{3}{16}$d. | |
| Do. France | 23 | á | 24 | cent. per dollar |
| Do. Rio Janeiro | 3 | | | per ct. premium |
| Do. Montevideo | 4 | á | | do. |
| Do. United States | 22 | á | $22\frac{1}{4}$ | |
| Hides, Ox, for Engld & Germy | 47 | á | 48 | per pesada. |
| Do. France | 40 | á | 43 | do. |
| Do. North America | 36 | á | 38 | do. |
| Do. Spain | 45 | á | 48 | do. |
| Do. salted | 40 | á | 41 | do. |
| Do. Horse | 22 | á | 25 | do. each |
| Calf skins | 38 | á | 40 | per pesada |
| Sheep skins, common | 22 | á | 24 | per dozen |
| Do. fine | 32 | á | 34 | do. |
| Deer skins | without price | | | do. |
| Goat skins | do. | | | do. |
| Nutria skins | $2\frac{3}{4}$ | á | 3 | dol. per lb |
| Chinchilli skins | no price. | | | dol. per dozen. |
| Horse hair, short | 35 | á | 40 | dol. per arroba |
| Do. mixed | 45 | á | $52\frac{1}{2}$ | do. |
| Do. long | 100 | á | 120 | do. |
| Wool, common, washed | 18 | á | 20 | do. |
| Do. picked | without price | | | do. |
| Do. shorn from skins | do | | | do. |
| Do. mestiza, dirty | 12 | á | 30 | do |
| Tallow, pure | 24 | á | 26 | do. |
| Do. raw | 15 | á | 17 | do. |
| Do. with grease | 13 | á | 19 | do. |
| Jerked beef | without price | | | per quintal. |
| Horns, mixed | 75 | á | 100 | per thousand |
| Do. Ox | 300 | á | 400 | do. |
| Shin bones | without price | | | do. |
| Hide cuttings | 8 | á | 10 | per 100 lbs. |
| Ostrich feathers, white | without price | | | per lb. |
| Do. black | 9 | á | 10 | do. |
| Salted tongues | 7 | á | 8 | per dozen |
| Salt, on board | none. | | | per fanega. |
| Discount | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | á | $2\frac{1}{2}$ | per cent. month |

The highest price of Doubloons during the week 396 dollars
The lowest price 388 dollars.
The highest rate of Exchange upon England during the week 2 3-16. The lowest do. 2 1-8d.

GEORGE THOMAS, Responsible Editor.